

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

MAKE IT IN AMERICA ACT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 20, 2021

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I introduce the "Make It in America Act." I thank U.S. Senator DEBBIE STABENOW (D-MI) for sponsoring the companion legislation, which was passed recently by the Senate in the bipartisan "Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act" (H.R. 3684).

Our "Make It in America Act" would prevent federal agencies from utilizing unnecessary waivers to get around "Buy American" requirements. Longstanding Congressional direction under the Buy American Act of 1933 (Public Law 72-428) requires the federal government to give preference to domestically produced goods and services. This ensures that taxpayer dollars are spent in support of American-made products and American jobs.

Despite this law, federal agencies routinely waive "Buy American" requirements without cause to purchase foreign-made products even when domestically made alternatives are readily available. This must end.

The "Make It in America Act" would close loopholes in our nation's "Buy American" laws and require that any waiver of the Buy American Act be publicly posted online with detailed justifications by the respective federal agency.

Our bicameral legislation also supports President Biden's Executive Order No. 14005, by providing Congressional authorization for the new Made in America Office within the White House's Office of Management and Budget. This new office is charged with reviewing all waivers to the Buy American Act sought by federal agencies and ensuring compliance with other "Buy American" laws. I strongly support President Biden's executive order creating this much-needed central office dedicated to enforcing "Buy American" laws, and I thank him for his leadership on this critical issue.

Congress must further strengthen our nation's "Buy American" laws to better support American manufacturing and competitiveness. The legislation I introduce today builds upon the "Make It in America" agenda I have advocated for throughout my tenure in Congress and during my earlier service in State government. When the federal government spends taxpayer dollars, those dollars should be spent on goods made by American workers. It's that simple.

Madam Speaker, I encourage all Members to cosponsor my "Make It in America Act," to support well-paying manufacturing jobs and help rebuild the American middle class.

HONORING MOUNTAIRE FARMS

HON. TED BUDD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 20, 2021

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mountaire Farms and their enduring tradition of business excellence.

The family-owned poultry farm and processing company is the fourth largest in the nation, boasting a storied presence within North Carolina. Despite their scale, Mountaire has continued to cultivate a reputation for family values, business success, and giving back to local communities.

Aligned with a 2019 expansion in Chatham County, Mountaire features newly opened plant operations in Siler City, NC, the largest city in the county, and a portion of the 13th District that I have the pleasure of representing. The project represented a \$170 million investment, generating county tax revenue and creating over 1,000 jobs.

Partnering with over 500 growers and employing over 1,500 workers in Siler City, Mountaire's economic footprint is essential to the region. Statewide, Mountaire is an economic powerhouse employing over 5,000 employees and processing over 840,000 chickens on any given day, and is a major asset to North Carolina agriculture, the state's largest industry.

While continuing to increase production capacity and growing their business, Mountaire has remained focused on what really matters: the community they set up shop in. Through initiatives like Mountaire Cares, their annual Thanksgiving for Thousands drive, scholarships, and other community service projects, they are deeply invested in improving the quality of life for Chatham County residents.

Through it all, Mountaire embodies their core commitment "to be good stewards of all the assets God has entrusted to us." This includes caring for employees, neighbors, customers, and others by doing business the right way and by prioritizing people over mere profits.

Please join me in commending Mountaire Farms on a job well done.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LT. COL. MATT URBAN VFW AND AMVETS POST 7275

HON. CHRIS JACOBS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 20, 2021

Mr. JACOBS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Lt. Col. Matt Urban VFW and AMVETS Post 7275 on the 75th anniversary of its founding.

The VFW and AMVETS Post, located in the Town of Lancaster, NY, is named after Matt Louis Urban, one of the most decorated Amer-

ican soldiers from WWII and a native of Buffalo, NY. Lieutenant Colonel Urban served in the United States Army from 1941–1946 and during his time in the military, saw combat in North Africa, Sicily, France, and Belgium. After being wounded in France, Urban and his battalion carried on into Belgium where he was severely wounded by machine gun fire in Philippeville. Urban eventually made his way to Germany without the ability to speak from his previous injuries and medically retired from the Army in 1946. Returning to the United States, Lieutenant Colonel Urban settled down in Michigan, received the Medal of Honor in 1979, and passed away in 1995. Some of Urban's other honors include 2 Silver Stars, 7 Purple Hearts, the Legion of Merit, and the Croix de Guerre from France.

Post 7275 adopted Lt. Col. Matt Urban's name in 2011 and today, it looks to keep its namesake's legacy of selfless service alive through community involvement and outreach. Chicken and steak dinners, classic car shows, and holiday parties all populate the Post's calendar and fundraiser for various causes and services. Additionally, the Post organizes several veteran-related services and memorials for its members. During the Thanksgiving holiday, a food drive is put on by and for veterans. For Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Veterans Day, the Post organizes ceremonies to remember the fallen and honor its members' sacrifices. Flag Day is especially significant for both the VFW and AMVETS as flags are placed at the graves of veterans and those killed in action at local cemeteries. The Post has also remained very active during the COVID-19 pandemic, helping members stay in contact with the local VA hospital for medical services and keeping veterans informed about vaccination information.

I thank the Lt. Col. Matt Urban VFW and AMVETS Post 7275 for its tireless commitments to serving our local veterans and greater community, and I again congratulate the Post on its 75th anniversary.

HONORING KATHLEEN ANN MCCARTY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 20, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Kathleen Ann McCarty for her exceptional career dedicated to humanitarian service.

Kathleen was born in Calexico, California, but soon after relocated with her family to Santa Rosa, where she attended Santa Rosa Junior College. Her service began when she took a year off from school to volunteer at the Chidamoyo Christian Hospital in Zimbabwe. Though never part of her original career path, her experiences inspired her to pursue a career in nursing. In 1977, she graduated from the University of California, San Francisco and

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